

STATE HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY OF IOWA

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

# The Annals of Iowa

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Volume 2 | Number 6 ( 1896)

pps. 481-481

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## Gen. Drake's "Good-Bye" to His Command

ISSN 0003-4827

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### Recommended Citation

"Gen. Drake's "Good-Bye" to His Command." *The Annals of Iowa* 2 (1896), 481-481.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0003-4827.2126>

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## GEN. DRAKE'S "GOOD-BYE" TO HIS COMMAND.

The following is the Farewell Order of Gov: Francis M. Drake at the time he was mustered out of the military service, nearly four months after the close of the war of the Rebellion. It has been pigeon-holed in the Adjutant General's office during the intervening thirty-one years, but comes to the light of day in an excellent state of preservation and with a flavor of patriotism which will be appreciated by all who read it. The original is now in the care of the Historical Department, with the series of documents, letters, papers, portraits and other mementos of Iowa Governors from Governor Lucas to the present day.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, 2ND DIV., 7TH ARMY CORPS,  
DUVALL'S BLUFFS, ARK., AUG. 21, 1865.

General Orders, No. 18.

## OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS OF THE FIRST BRIGADE:

The time has come when, as your commanding officer, I must say—"Good-bye."

With many of you I have been intimately associated during three years of the desperate and bloody struggle of the Nation to preserve its life and crush out the most formidable rebellion known in history, now happily at an end, with our old flag floating prouder than ever before, our Country's honor vindicated, and the nation regenerated and purified by the glorious success of our arms.

The war is over and we have but to lay off its habiliments and return to the pursuits of civil life.

In separating from you I am gratified to be able to say—that while it has been my good fortune to command you, you have borne your part as good soldiers, and have always been ready to do your duty with cheerfulness. You have by prompt obedience, hearty co-operation, valor, and patient endurance of hardships and privation, won a place in my memory to be treasured forever.

I feel assured by your exemplary conduct as soldiers in maintaining the laws, that as citizens you will be found wielding a noble influence in their administration.

Officers and Soldiers of the First Brigade: with renewed assurances of regard, I bid you a kindly "Good-bye."

F. M. DRAKE, Bvt. Brig. General Commdg.

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